

PHYSICAL.

Cattle Disease.

Dr. McFarland's report upon the subject of cattle disease, it contains an analysis of the facts respecting this terrible scourge, as far as ascertained. On the nature of the disease the Doctor says:

"My belief in regard to the essential nature of the disease may be summed up as follows:

1. That it is a general fever, of peculiarly sub-aute nature (asthenic) with a usual tendency to a localization in the lungs, by the same law of disease under which other genera-livers localize themselves as the disease progresses.

2. That it is propagated—According to the best light we have—by a contagion as distinct as small pox, measles, or scarlet fever, with its regular laws of propagation and incubation, and that it would have its own self-limiting, like the above diseases, but for its pulmonary complications.

3. The disease of the lungs, although so commonly found as to constitute the rule, is not necessarily present, but that cases may occur of a fatal character before the stage of the disease is reached in which the lungs begin to suffer, as many cases of scurification or small-pox are, under the same circumstances."

With respect to the treatment of the disease, he confesses its existence in Massachusetts has added little to our stock of facts in regard to its successful management. Well ventilated and dry apartments, and a good stock of well cured fodder are, to say the least, excellent prophylactics. With regard to the treatment of the disease, when it has once made its appearance, it may be summed in brief space. The isolation of the diseased from the sound should be instant and complete.

Old Plaster.

The value of old plaster, says a correspondent of the Germantown Telegraph, from the walls of buildings as a manure for apple and other fruit trees, has been demonstrated by several trials. It appears that when used for this purpose, it is better to spread it on, than to bury it beneath the surface, unless it is used as an ingredient in compost, in which case it must be dug in. In all cases, however, it must be finely broken up, and if pulverized, it will be so much more efficient in its effects.

Old trees that have passed into senility, and for years, ceased to produce fruit or even to infloresce, have, it is said, been speedily rejuvenated simply by absconding a portion of the tops, opening the soils around the collars, and applying old plaster and bone dust, mixed in proportions—say two bushels to each tree. In fact there is no species of vegetation upon which the effect of this mixture is not immediately beneficial; it stimulates the absorbent and circulatory systems into vigorous and healthful activity, and restores functions of diseased plants almost soon as applied. It is a cheap and economical top dressing for grain and grass lands, and may be applied either in the fall or spring. We advise every one who can obtain it to give it a fair trial.

Ripening Tomatoes in Winter.

At a meeting of the Rockford (Ill.) Horticultural Society last winter, Mr. Ordway brought a specimen of tomatoes, red and yellow, small and large, but all perfect, which had been ripened in his cellar, according to the following method:

"If any one wishes to know how to keep them fresh and good all winter, read the following recipe.

Plant late in the season, and pull up the vines in the fall, before they are injured by the frost; fasten a bag about the stock, two inches above the root, then hang them up in the cellar by a cord tied around the vine above the bag, and fill the bag with moist dirt. When the bag is tied over the root, leave a small hole in the top, for the admission of water, which should be used occasionally to prevent the roots becoming dry. The more light in the cellar the better. They should be hung clear from the wall, on every side where sun will not strike them from a window if possible, and swing the vines up, with the roots uppermost."

TOMATO Catsup.

As the time is at hand for enjoying this favorite sauce, the following is a very good receipt for preparing it for future table use: To a half bushel of skinned tomatoes, add one quart of good vinegar, one pound of salt, a quarter of a pound of black pepper, two ounces of African cayenne, a quarter of a pound of allspice, six onions, one ounce of cloves, and two pounds of brown sugar. Boil this mass for three hours, constantly stirring it to keep it from burning. When cool, strain it through a fine sieve or coarse cloth, and bottle it for use. Many persons omit the vinegar in this preparation.

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